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# BELLINGHAM

Industrial and Commercial Metropolis of Northwest Washington.  
Most Favored Seaport of Puget Sound.

**B**ELLINGHAM is the most northwesterly city in the United States; the metropolis of Northwest Washington; the county seat of Whatcom County; the commercial center of 50 per cent. of the farm and fruit region of the Puget Sound basin; the logical trading point and shipping port for Alaska and the Orient, being the nearest

American city. Bellingham has a population of 22,632, according to the official census of January, 1904, and is the fourth city in size in the state of Washington; it ranks first in fish products, second in shingles and third in lumber.

Bellingham has five miles of the most valuable tidewater frontage on the Pacific Coast and Bellingham Bay, a practically landlocked arm of Puget Sound, embracing 50 square miles, from 20 to 75 feet deep, making absolutely safe navigation and anchorage anywhere in it, is recognized the world over as the most perfect and ample harbor on the Pacific coast of North or South America.

Bellingham is the only important city on the Pacific Coast that is reached by three transcontinental railroads, and another railroad with transcontinental connection at Spokane has been surveyed through the Cascades from Bellingham eastward. All these railroads make terminal freight and passenger rates to Bellingham.

Bellingham has the largest coal field ever discovered on the Pacific Coast, being 250 square miles in extent. Back of the coal are the famous Whatcom county gold fields, Mount Baker and Slate Creek, among the richest and greatest deposits of treasure ever touched by pick and drill. All this is new, fresh, inviting to honest

wealth and industry and full of rich reward to all who have will and wealth to invest in wholesome development.

ST. JOSEPH'S  
HOSPITAL



HOTEL  
FAIRHAVEN



CITY HALL



COURT HOUSE

Bellingham has a perfect gravity city water system, a \$250,000 plant, owned by the city, the supply being from Lake Whatcom, 2½ miles distant, 1 by 12 miles in extent, from 30 to 900 feet deep, 318 feet above tidewater, yielding a gravity pressure of from 85 to 120 pounds per inch. Also an independent city water system valued at \$150,000, Lake Padden being the source of supply, 437 feet above tide water and 2 miles distant. The two sys-

tems comprise about 100 miles of pipe and the water supply is inexhaustible.

Bellingham has a twin sewer system representing a total cost of about \$300,000, and including 26½ miles of sewer.

Bellingham is the home of the largest and most popular State Normal School in the state of Washington, representing an expenditure of \$247,300 by the State. This

State institution maintains a faculty of 19 professors; the enrollment of student teachers exceeds 300 annually; tuition is free.

Bellingham's city school system is one of the most complete in the West, employing a faculty of 80 teachers, free libraries in nearly all the buildings, free text books, ten months of school each year. The school-house properties cost \$270,000 and include 5 brick and stone and 6 frame buildings.

Bellingham has two free public libraries with 6,000 bound volumes and two specially built library buildings, one of which is a Carnegie donation.

Bellingham has one of the best city hall buildings in the State, built of brick and stone at a cost of \$50,000.

Bellingham has five theaters, including Beck's superb playhouse, seating capacity 2,100, the finest theater west of Denver, built in 1902 at a cost of \$155,000.

Bellingham has magnificent fair grounds, county fair buildings and the fastest elliptical race track in the State.

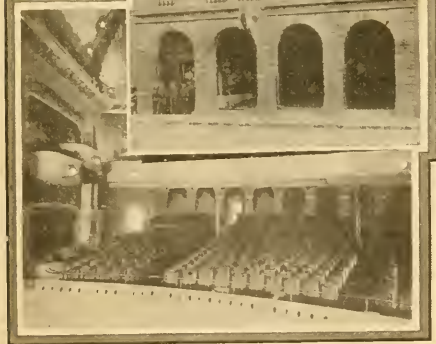
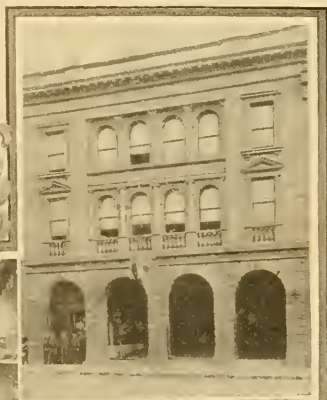


#### STREET SCENES

Bellingham has a free delivery postoffice, established 12 years. The receipts for the past five years aggregated as follows: 1899, \$17,388.86; 1900, \$20,867.85; 1901, \$27,076.20; 1902, \$32,077.24; 1903, \$36,520.15.

Bellingham during 1903 spent in improvements of streets \$126,591.49, sewers \$2,803.95, and water works \$93,200, and erected new buildings and industrial structures to the value of \$1,010,880—a total of \$1,233,375.44.

Bellingham has the cheapest electric light and power service on the Pacific Coast. Whatcom Creek, the mouth of which is



BECK'S THEATER

Two of Our 11 School Buildings  
Employing 80 Teachers



the property of the city, has a fall of 315 feet in less than three miles with a minimum flow of 140 cubic feet per second, capable of a reliable net horsepower of 2,400. Also the falls of the North Fork of the Nooksack river, having a sheer vertical height of 103 feet, a fall of 560 feet within a mile, capable of developing a minimum of 10,000 horsepower, 5,000 horsepower of which is now being developed by the installation of an immense power and light plant by the Bellingham Bay & British Columbia Railroad Company, construction having been in progress constantly the past two years. The city also has an excellent gas plant, having two holders of 200,000 cubic feet capacity. Bellingham has a splendid system of electric street

railway, with more than 15 miles of track in operation, and the local company builds its own cars. Stone & Webster, Boston, are the proprietors of the street railway and gas plants. Two other corporations have secured franchises for more than 75 miles of suburban electric railways, tapping the richest tributary sections of forest, orchard, farm, meadow and mine.

Bellingham has 37 church organizations, four women's clubs, two men's social clubs, the Bellingham Chamber of Commerce with 415 members, and 50 established fraternal lodges.

Bellingham has a telephone system using 1,800 telephones. The minimum fee is \$1 a month.



STATE NORMAL SCHOOL

# I NDUSTRIES



AN EXPORT SAWMILL—Capacity 20,000 Feet of Lumber Per Hour

the Bellingham Bay & British Columbia Railroad Company, forms the most extensive local industrial institution, and expended in Whatcom county during 1901, 1902 and 1903 in improvements, material and labor, a total of \$3,702,860, of which \$175,000 was for taxes, \$1,028,572 for logs and \$950,000 for wages.

Seven of these Bellingham mills during 1903 employed 1,060 men and paid out in wages \$865,000. During the year 102 ocean vessels received lumber cargo for various parts of the world, the vessels disbursing while in port from \$450 to nearly \$15,000 each for labor, repairs and supplies.

## *Bellingham Fisheries*

Bellingham is the headquarters, supply center and largest packing city of the fisheries of Puget Sound and Alaska, and is so recognized by the State maintaining its Fish Commissioner's headquarters here. This city manu-



THE LARGEST SHINGLE MILL





SALMON CANNERY—Whatcom County has 13 Salmon Canneries

fatures the tin cans and canning machinery for the canneries of Washington and Alaska, these auxiliary industries, the American Can Company and Burpee & Letson, employing 180 persons. Ninety per cent. of the salmon taken in Puget Sound are taken within 20 miles from Bellingham, and of the 24 Puget Sound canneries 13 are in Whatcom county, including the two largest canneries in the world, which put up annually over half the entire pack of Puget Sound. These canneries employ 41 steamboats, 13 launches, 31 pile-drivers, 312 scows, 350 other boats, 8,265 men, capital invested \$5,582,333, year's payroll \$1,043,890, value of product (1902) \$5,528,595. The Pacific Packing & Navigation Company, with headquarters here, where it operates much the largest cannery in the world, has 5 Puget Sound and 11 Alaska canneries and operates more vessels than any other single company, including 2 ships, 3 schooners, 27 steamboats, 24 steam and electric tugs and launches, 500 fish boats, 600 scows, 35 steam pile-drivers.

### *Bellingham Oysters*

Bellingham oysters, including Puget Sound, Eastern and Japanese oysters, are being cultivated extensively at Samish Bay, a few miles south of the city, where are over 2,000 acres of the choicest oyster beds in the State, owned by the Bellingham, Huntoon, Pacific Coast, Oyster Creek and Samish oyster companies and individuals. This is practically a new industry, only 3 years old in fact, but a future of unusual importance is already assured.

### *Cold Storage*

The Hackett Cold Storage Company has just established in Bellingham the largest and most perfect storage plant north of San Francisco, cost \$150,000, cold storage capacity 3,000 tons, refrigerating capacity 150 tons daily; operating in connection 100 refrigerating railroad cars each of 30 tons capacity.

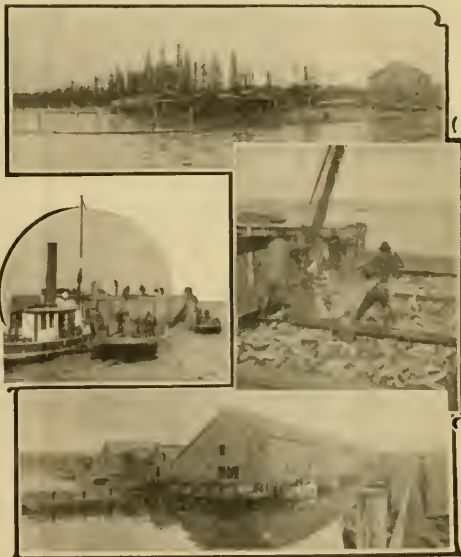
### *By-Products of Fir*

Bellingham has a new factory for the manufacture of turpentine, tar, tar oil, etc., out of fir stumps and wastewood, capacity 2,000 gallons by-products per

day, cost of plant \$37,000, 8 men employed indoors, began operating February, 1904. This industry insures sufficient value in the stumps and refuse wood on logged-off lands to pay for clearing ready for the plow. A similar factory, now being increased to the Bellingham plant's capacity, is in operation on Lummi island, across the Bay from Bellingham.

### *Superior Natural Advantages For*

Dairies	Ship Yard
Vinegar and Cider Mill	Fruit and Vegetable Cannery
Poultry Growing	String Instruments Factory
Woodenware Factory	Tannery
Furniture Factory	Boot and Shoe Factory
Broom Factory	Pottery Factory
Beet Sugar Factory	Tile and Pipe Making
Flax Mill	Portland Cement Factory
Cordage Mill	Glass Factory
Fish Net Factory	Marble Works
Woolen Mill	Smelter
All Kinds of Weaving	Machinery Factories



BELLINGHAM FISHERIES



A PORTION OF BELLINGHAM WATERFRONT

# Whatcom County



WHATCOM County forms the Northwest corner of the United States and is bounded on the west by the Georgian Straits of Puget Sound and the Gulf of Georgia, on the north by British Columbia, on the east by the summit of the Cascade mountains, and on the south by Skagit County. The gross area is 2,448 square miles, or 1,556,720 acres, of which about 1,000,000 acres is mountainous, heavily timbered country still unsurveyed and sparsely settled. It is larger than the state of Delaware and the

District of Columbia combined. Near the center of the county Mount Baker, one of the most imposing and picturesque mountains on the American continent, rises to a height of 11,100 feet, with lesser peaks and tributary ranges north, east and south of it, covering a richly mineralized area of nearly 1,300 square miles, embracing the well known Mount Baker and Slate Creek gold fields.

The fruit, farming, grazing and timber lands of the county comprise the area west of Mount Baker, being an area of about 1,000 square miles, containing about 500,000 acres of tillable soil. The county is drained by the Nooksack river and its three branches, by Baker river and several smaller streams, and by the Skagit river and its upper tributaries, which drain the southern section.

## *History and Population*

WHATCOM county was first settled at Bellingham in 1852 and was organized as a county in 1854. In 1873 San Juan county was created out of the western or island territory of Whatcom county, and in 1884 the county of Skagit was formed from the southern half of Whatcom county. The population as given by the United States census returns of 1860, 1870, 1880, 1890 and 1900, and estimated by the state school census of 1903 (taking the federal census of



BELLINGHAM BAY BREWERY—60,000 Barrels of Beer Annually



FRUIT

FLORAL BULBS

LIVE STOCK FARMS

1900 and the state school censuses of 1900 and 1903 as bases) were as follows:

1860.....	352	1890.....	18,591
1870.....	534	1900.....	24,116
1880.....	3,137	1903.....	43,257
1904 (estimated)			50,000



Official School Statistics of  
Whatcom County

Towns having Graded Schools.....	17
Valuation of School Properties.....	\$305,366 00

	1900	1901	1902	1903
Number children of school age	6,770	7,619	8,825	9,835
Average length of term, m'ths	8.1	8.4	8.5	8.4
Average salary, male teachers	51.80	54.04	61.59	63.89
Average salary, female T'ch'rs.	14.28	16.05	16.68	19.55
Number of districts in county..	76	76	77	79
Number having five months or more of school.....	66	73	74	75
Number having seven months or more of school.....	44	52	50	64

Population of Whatcom County  
Cities and Towns

	1890	1900	1904
Bellingham, (Formerly Whatcom and Fairhaven)	8,135	11,062	*22,632
Blaine .....	1,563	1,592	3,200
Sumas.....		319	900
Lynden.....	560	365	850

\*Official census completed January 22, 1904.



# An Ideal Summer Resort

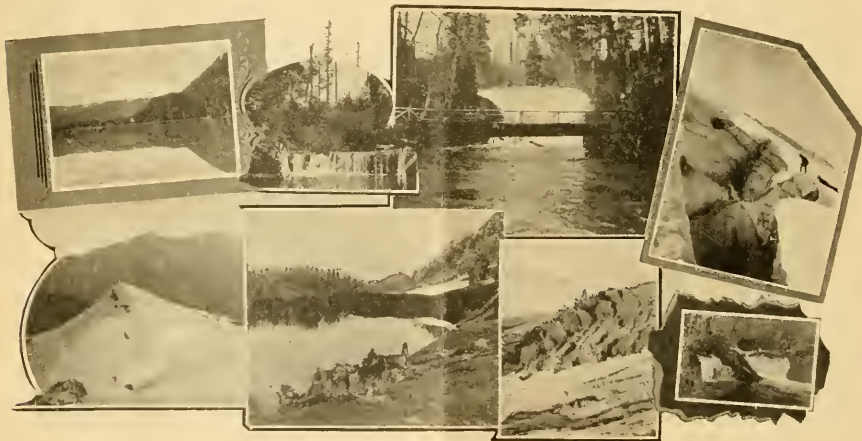
**I**NVIGORATING sea air, the wonderful mountain ranges, the neighboring archipelago of evergreen isles, the noble forests of fir and cedar through which the sunlight never penetrates, the countless mountain streams and lakes alive with trout and bass, the agate beaches, clam coves and gull-peopled rock reefs, make Whatcom county a summer resort unmarred by a single unpleasant feature. The woods are full of wild berries and game, such as deer, pheasants, bear, congar, wildcats, rabbits, ptarmigan, grouse, mountain goats and pigeons. The streams are alive with the gamiest trout in the world. The Sound is a never-failing source of delight to the yachtsman, fisherman, bather or camper-out. The marshes and the tide-washed sloughs are the haunts of ducks, geese, brant, and snipe. There are no poisonous reptiles, insects or plants, and less flies and mosquitos than in any other

country of the same latitude. Above all, the climate is ideal, the delicious and cooling sea air ever gently moving landward, and the temperature seldom rising above 80 degrees.

From Bellingham the horizon in all directions presents a panorama of the most inspiring grandeur—the Olympic mountains and the San Juan group of islands in the southwest; the fields and forests and the Gulf of Georgia in the northwest; the great forests and far beyond the towering Selkirks of British Columbia in the north; forests, fire-bearded hills, Mt. Baker, The Sisters and the Cascade mountains in the east, and in the south the beautiful bays and coves, the picturesque cliffs and reefs and the dreamy, green-hemmed waters of Puget Sound. It is such a scope and splendor of view as to inspire the most prosaic with renewed interest in nature and with a true sense of the joy of living.



INDIAN CAMP



WHATCOM COUNTY SCENERY

# Farming and Fruit Growing

## IN WHATCOM COUNTY



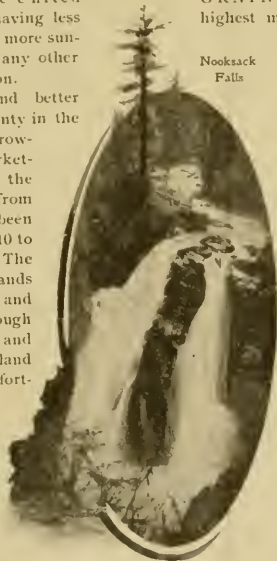
WHATCOM county is practically 100 miles long, east and west, and 25 miles wide, north and south. The eastern half or more is mountainous and the climate is more severe than in the western portion, which is a region of prolific forest growth, rich and fertile valleys, and the climate is the most equable in the United States, having less rainfall and more sunshine than any other

portion of the Puget Sound region. Whatcom county has more and better wagon roads than any other county in the State, so that farmers and fruit growers have the best facilities for marketing their products every day in the year. Many tracts of land from which the choicest timber has been logged off may be had at from \$10 to \$20 per acre, on easy terms. The average cost of clearing these lands ready for seeding is \$40 per acre, and usually the timber left yields enough to pay for the land and clearing, and often more. Ten acres of this land will keep any family in as comfortable circumstances as 100 acres would in many less favored districts in the East. Live stock thrives the year round, for the forests are evergreen and the grass and luvuriant undergrowth are always full of life and nutriment. Naturally it is the logical home for cattle, sheep and goats, the Angora goats lately introduced thriving perfectly. Dairying is a rapidly growing and always profitable industry, and the introduction of alfalfa and the silo method of preparing and preserving stock food have established the industry in the front rank of our rural enterprises. Creamery butter and choice ranch butter averages 25 cents a pound the year round. Eggs range in price from 20 to 50 cents a dozen, and chickens dressed for market from 50 to 90 cents

each. All poultry, except turkeys, thrive remarkably well here. Natural conditions are as favorable in Whatcom county as in the most favored part of the world for the raising of wool, flax fiber, sugar beets and chicory, and all have been grown here, for a series of years, demonstrating the most favored conditions of soil and climate. Economic conditions in the form of factories for the consumption of these products have not yet been established.

GRAIN—Hops and barley, both of which yield in the highest measure and quality in Whatcom county, find ready local market in the Bellingham Bay Brewery, an immense exporting institution.

Nooksack Falls



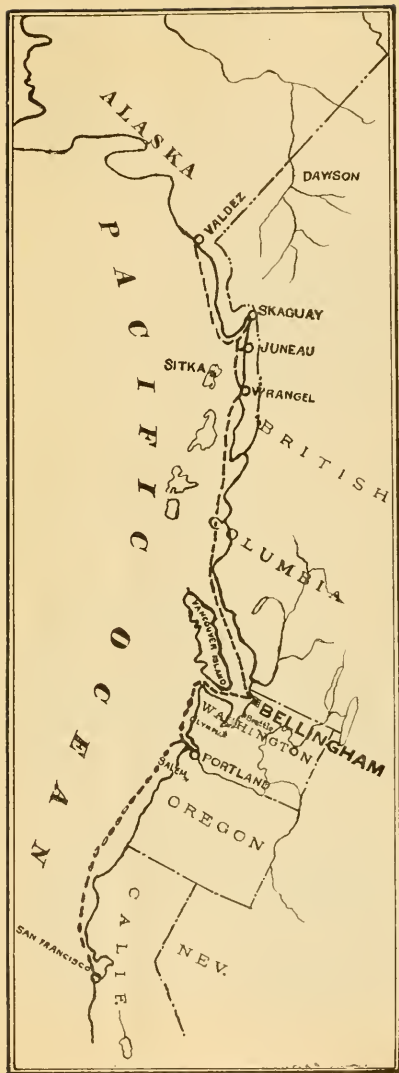
Whatcom county wheat yields abundantly, but is too soft for milling and is used exclusively for feed. Oats are invariably high in quality and the crop ranges from 50 to 140 bushels per acre.

FRUIT—All kinds of fruits thrive luxuriantly and bear abundantly in Whatcom county. Apples, pears, peaches, prunes, plums, nectarines, apricots, cherries, crabapples and berries of all kinds are grown by Whatcom county horticulturists. Apples, pears, prunes, plums, crabapples, cherries and all the small fruits are grown preferably as the most abundant bearing, sure crops and most profitable. Such lovers of hot-house temperature as peaches, quinces, grapes, tomatoes, melons, etc., are not sure crops and are not generally cultivated.

FLORAL BULBS—Whatcom county is the only recognized competitor of Holland and the Bermuda islands in the production of tulip, narcissus, lily and other floral bulbs for the florists and parks of the great cities of America. This is comparatively a new industry, but has already demonstrated its wonderful adaptability to our soil and climate.

Hops yield 1,500 pounds per acre; potatoes, 250 to 400 bushels; sugar beets, 18 tons; carrots, 16 tons; flax, 4 tons dry straw and 19 bushels seed yielding 37 per cent of oil; strawberries, 6,500 pounds.

DIVERSIFIED FARMING—Hay, such as timothy and clover, yields usually two crops a year, an average of over 3 tons per acre, and 5 tons with the second crop have been raised in Whatcom county. Potatoes yield



from 150 to 300 bushels per acre, and the average price is about 60 cents per bushel. Oats yield about 80 bushels and the market price averages about 40 cents. Peas yield about 40 bushels per acre and sell for \$1.20 per bushel. Strawberries yield as high as 300 crates of 24 quarts each to the acre and the average price exceeds \$1.50 to the crate. Orchards begin to bear in from two to four years, and the greatest difficulty is the natural tendency of the trees to over-bear. Apples sell at from 50 cents to \$1.25 per bushel box. The foregoing statements relative to farming, etc., are extracts from letters written to the Bellingham Chamber of Commerce by Whatcom county farmers and the facts stated are from their own actual experience.

C. E. Flint writes that in the spring of 1902 he planted 2 pounds of the Netted Gem variety of potatoes. Under ordinary field culture they yielded 250 pounds, a lot of which he gave away or sold. The remainder were planted in the spring of 1903 and yielded 60 sacks, or 6,000 pounds.

### *Climate and Its Effects*



VER the western, or agricultural, area of Whatcom county the direct effect of the Pacific ocean is felt and the Japanese ocean currents render the temperature mild and moderate at all seasons of the year. It is a decidedly humid atmosphere; no extremes of heat and cold; a good deal of rain during the winter months, falling in gentle showers just a little removed from the character of mist; cool nights; a long growing season, and profuse vegetation. The general effect of these atmospheric conditions is noticed in that tree growth is prodigiously stimulated; all roots and vegetables flourish; the softer grains, such as oats and barley, yield largely and grow to perfection; hay and grass grow remarkably, timothy for instance growing to a height of 7½ feet, with heads from 10 to 12 inches long, and there are generally two crops a year; apples, pears, plums, cherries and the small fruits are practically indigenous to the soil and yield enormously; flowers, especially roses and bulbs, are profuse bloomers and grow to complete development; shrubbery is dense and luxuriant. It is a country of marvelous growing and life-giving powers, and no better garden and field results can be obtained anywhere. The mean annual temperature is 50 degrees; the average summer temperature is 78 degrees and the average winter temperature is 45 degrees. The thermometer seldom goes above 80 degrees in summer and rarely below 15 degrees above zero in the winter. The average annual rainfall is only 32 inches, and two-thirds of it falls during the months from November to April, inclusive. There are practically 260 days in the year in which there is no rain or snow. The total average snowfall the past six years was 11.9 inches. The velocity of the wind averages 6.60 miles an hour and the worst storms known on Puget



MAP OF NORTHWEST WASHINGTON

Sound sweeps along at a rate of less than 55 miles an hour. There is less rain and more sunshine in Whatcom county than in any other Puget Sound locality, or in Southern England, or Northern Europe.

## U. S. WEATHER BUREAU RECORD FOR BELLINGHAM

YEAR	Length of Record Years	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION (Inches)				SKY			Prevailing Direc- tion of Wind.		
		Annual Mean	Highest	Date	Lowest (fab. °)	Date	Total for Year	Greatest Monthly	Month	Total Snow	No. Rainy Days	No. Clear Days		No. Part Cloudy Days	No. Cloudy Days
1903	9	49.5	86	June 8	19	Mar. 12	32.43	5.47	Nov.	10.	108	137	143	85	Southwest
1902	8	49.9	94	Aug. 9	10	Jan. 25	31.27	5.98	Nov.	9.3	113	133	143	99	Southwest
1901	7	49.9	80	June 18	9	Jan. 9	31.99	5.91	Nov.	15.3	120	133	137	95	Southwest
1900	6	50.7	78	July 30	12	Nov. 21	34.73	4.40	Dec.	7.	139	145	102	118	Southwest
1899	5	49.7	96	July 28	3	Jan. 4	33.29	5.74	Nov.	24.	131	99	134	132	Southwest
1898	4	50.	84	Aug. 1	18	Jan. 25	28.40	4.08	Nov.	6.	133	143	125	97	Southwest
Averages		49.9					32.05			11.9	124	130	131	104	Southwest

Comparisons might be made here from the United States weather records to show the relative annual rainfall in inches in various parts of the United States—for instance:

New York	44.80	Cincinnati	39.87	Galveston	48.68	Bellingham	32.05
Atlantic City	42.71	Chicago	34.76	Eureka, Cal.	46.89	Tacoma	44.63
Atlanta, Ga.	50.38	Detroit	32.33	Port Smith, Ark.	44.74	Olympia	54.50
Baltimore	43.95	Milwaukee	32.08	Portland, Me.	42.26	Union City, Wash.	73.06
Boston	44.96	Indianapolis	42.96	Portland, Ore.	46.83	South Bend, Wash.	91.84
Chattanooga	52.90	St. Louis	41.08	Seattle, Wash.	35.90	Clearwater, Wash.	119.45



## BELLINGHAM BAY COUNTRY FARMS

This table shows the number and acreage of farms and value of farm property in the Bellingham Bay country, federal census, June 1, 1900:

COUNTIES	Number of Farms	Total Acres Cultivated	VALUES		Total Acres Appropriated
			Land and Improvements (except buildings)	Buildings	
Whatcom County.....	1,262	119,434	\$2,154,160	\$645,190	418,161
Skagit County.....	880	87,151	2,956,110	599,200	466,153
San Juan County.....	338	50,981	725,200	186,440	94,815
Lummi Indian Reservation..	28	4,489	95,720	15,340	12,000
TOTALS.....	2,517	262,055	\$5,931,190	\$1,446,170	991,129

## YIELD OF GRAIN

The State Labor Commissioner made an attempt in 1900 to collect statistics of the grain crops of the State, from the result of which, although the report is admitted to be incomplete, the following figures, in bushels, are taken:

COUNTIES	Year	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Rye	Peas
Whatcom .....	1899	21,260	155,070	14,340	80	24,930
	1900	26,350	176,300	28,000	370	27,420
Skagit.....	1899	4,340	1,907,780	16,240	.....	.....
	1900	3,616	1,526,224	13,532	.....	.....
San Juan.....	1899	11,817	207,129	1,300	.....	4,654
	1900	10,994	117,056	735	.....	5,501
Totals.....	1899	37,417	2,269,979	31,880	80	29,584
	1900	40,960	1,819,580	42,267	370	32,921

## *Creamery Statistics, 1903*

Five Whatcom county Creameries during 1903 report the following; Capital invested in plants, \$12,175; number of cows contributing cream, 2,905; butter output, 525,871 pounds; wholesale market value paid to owners of cows, \$130,160.17, or an average of 25 cents a pound; number of persons employed, 19; annual payroll \$14,030; average earnings per cow, \$43.46. It is estimated by the creamery operators that but 30 per cent of the butter consumed here is produced in Whatcom county.

## *Fruit and Vegetable Cannery*

The only fruit and vegetable cannery in Northwest Washington is the plant of the Everson Canning Company at Everson, 16 miles northeast from Bellingham. It is a four-retort cannery, daily capacity 5,000 2-pound cans per day of 10 hours, operating at least 4 months in the year, employing from 5 to 15 persons, according to character of material canned. The staple vegetables canned are peas, string beans, pumpkins and tomatoes; fruits, apples, pears, prunes, plums, cherries and berries.

## LAND OFFICE STATISTICS, 1903

COUNTIES	Area Unappropriated and Unreserved		Reserved or Appropriated	
	Surveyed Acres	Unsurveyed Acres	Reserved Acres	Appropriated Acres
Whatcom.....	16,850	11,029	959,640	418,161
Skagit.....	26,982	49,139	628,726	466,153
San Juan.....	3,230	none	2,955	94,815
TOTALS.....	47,062	60,168	1,591,321	979,129

## CLASSIFICATION OF LANDS

The two tables following are compiled from the report of Henry Gannett, geographer, to the United States Department of the Interior, June 17, 1902:

	COUNTIES	
	Whatcom Square Miles	Skagit Square Miles
Total area.....	2,226	1,874
Merchantable timber area.....	1,387	1,576
Burned area.....	636	12
Cut area.....	170	196
Timberless area.....	33	90



*Average Board Measure Per Tree*

Fir, 10,000 feet; cedar, 5,000 feet, spruce, 7,000 feet. Many fir trees are from 8 to 14 feet thick and from 100 to 150 feet in the clear to the first limb, cutting as high as 70,000 feet of lumber per tree.

*Mountain Cedar*

Mountain, or Alaska, Cedar is plentiful in the mountains of Whatcom county. It is a wood of rare value, being susceptible of a very high finish.



**STANDING TIMBER**

The figures represent the estimated feet, board measure, and no account is taken of the forests of alder and other useful woods in both counties:

	COUNTIES	
	Whatcom	Skagit
Fir.....	1,905,962,000	6,297,350,000
Cedar.....	596,342,000	2,716,326,000
Spruce.....	188,071,000	1,900,339,000
Hemlock.....	18,580,000	184,096,000
Totals.....	2,708,955,000	11,098,111,000
Average stand per acre..	3,000,000	11,000,000
Total timber, both counties.....	13,807,066,000	

*Timber Strength and Durability*

**P**UGET SOUND cedar is the most lasting wood known. Roofs covered with this cedar fifty years ago in this moist climate prove that the shingles remain sound and hard until they are literally worn out by the action of the water. It is also a first-class sash and door and finishing wood. Puget Sound fir is the strongest large wood known. It is a superior ship timber, bridge timber, flooring, etc., and is preferred to all others for railroad car sills, bridge stringers and ship spars. Its immense girth and great height, together with its unequalled strength, make it a timber of great possibilities. It is stronger than oak, a fact which has been many times demonstrated by official competitive tests. One of the late demonstrations of this fact was made by the engineering department of the



Northern Pacific railroad. Pieces of Eastern white pine, Eastern oak and Puget Sound fir, each 2x4 inches and 4 feet long were laid edgewise on supports 3 feet 9 inches apart in the clear and by applying a concentrated weight in the center each piece was loaded down until it broke. The breaking weight or pressure was as follows: Eastern white pine, 1,610 pounds; Eastern oak, 2,139 pounds, Puget Sound fir, 4,320 pounds.



# Whatcom County Roads

## Whatcom County Lakes

LAKES	Miles Distant from Bellingham	Length Miles	Width Miles	Average Depth Feet	Altitude Ft. above Tidewater
Whatcom...	2½	12	¾	200	318
Padden....	1½	¾	¾	25	437
Samish.....	8	3½	½	22	285
Baker.....	42	2	1½	70	1,000

There are a large number of other lakes of lesser importance, but all adding to the pleasure and health of the summer season. These include Lakes Terrill, Wiser, Twin, Silver, Mirror, Austin, Barrett, Squalicum, Chuckanut and the Lummi Marshes.

Elbert Hubbard, in the *The Philistine* of February, 1904, concludes an enthusiastic presentation of his impressions of Puget Sound with this statement: "If an ideal environment will ever produce an ideal people and an ideal people make an ideal city, I think the suburbs of that city will be near Puget Sound."

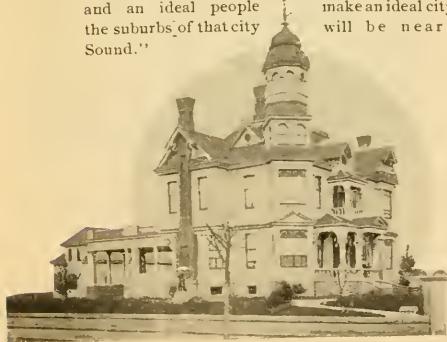
## Whatcom County Wagon Roads

WHATCOM county has been recognized for the past eleven years as the best wagon road county in the state of Washington, both in extent and character of its highways, and the road experts of the United States Department of Agriculture last year secured photographs of these roads to illustrate their lectures to good roads organizations. The wagon roads of Whatcom county are classified as follows:

	Miles
Gravel roads.....	106
Plank roads.....	20
Grubbed and graded roads.....	195
Partly improved roads.....	270
Total.....	591
Cost since 1893.....	\$793,582

## Whatcom County Railroads

BELLINGHAM is the most favored city of the Pacific Coast in both railroad and ocean transportation facilities, being a terminus of the Great Northern, Northern Pacific and Canadian Pacific railroads, and the sole Pacific Coast terminus of another great railroad now under construction from this city east, which will bring this port 25 miles



nearer to the Washington wheat and stock farms than any other important Puget Sound seaport, at the same time reducing the grade across the mountains 15 per cent. Bellingham is 58 miles nearer to the Pacific ocean and 136 miles nearer to Alaska than Tacoma. There are 161 miles of railroad main track in Whatcom county, of

which 15 miles was built in 1903, at a cost of nearly \$500,000; 37 miles in 1902, costing \$2,250,000, and 19 miles in 1901, costing \$432,000. The Bellingham Bay & British Columbia has a handsome railway station in Bellingham and the Great Northern is now completing \$20,000 a brick and stone depot.



Gold Stamp Mills



## Whatcom County Mines

**W**HATCOM county has beside 250 square miles of coal measures, about 1,200 square miles of the most picturesque and rugged mountain fastnesses of the United States, all of which is richly mineralized with gold, silver, copper, iron and other precious or useful metals. The unusual difficulty of transportation to and from this treasure-laden region, now being opened up extensively, has retarded its development and 1903 witnessed its first considerable recognition as a gold-producing field of remarkable richness. Capital far into the millions is now rapidly overcoming the rugged barriers of nature, and the Mount

Baker and Slate Creek gold fields have won the attention of mining men the world over. In 1903 three stamp mills with 66 stamps were operated in the Mount Baker

district and 130 additional stamps have already been ordered for installation this year, as well as a cyanide plant of 200 tons daily capacity for one of the mining companies. Not less than 2,000 tons of machinery and supplies will be taken into this district early this season. The Slate Creek camp had four stamp mills in 1903, aggregating 30 stamps, and 50 stamps will be added this season. Over 600 tons of supplies were taken into the district in 1903, and this quantity will be at least doubled this year. Both the Mount Baker and Slate Creek districts have free-milling gold ore, as well as baser ore. Beside the true minerals, there are vast ledges of talc, potters', tile and brick clay, marble, lime, asbestos and the best building stone on the Pacific Coast.

The Chuckanut stone quarry, Bellingham, is favored above all others by the U. S. government. The value of the output for the year 1903 was \$48,000.



# Some Whatcom County Industries

INDUSTRIES (Except Logging)	1900					1903				
	Plants	Capital in Plants	Employees	Year's Payroll	Value of Products	Plants	Capital in Plants	Employees	Year's Payroll	Value of Product
Lumber .....	6	\$ 580,000	657	\$330,750	\$ 721,991	16	\$1,700,000	1316	\$ 880,000	\$2,300,000
Shingles .....	41	No report	764	535,896	967,714	112	No report	2160	1,320,000	3,650,000
Fisheries .....	11	2,129,000	4255	724,822	1,326,600	14	2,595,600	4441	645,000	1,280,000
Woodworking .....	9	50,750	366	271,204	637,801	17	158,000	443	351,000	948,000
Stone and Brick .....	6	19,000	57	37,740	50,650	13	84,000	152	86,000	111,000
Printing and Binding .....	10	34,570	55	32,452	46,600	17	54,421	169	114,000	156,500
Textile Industries.....	5	22,500	48	19,350	47,697	9	38,800	104	47,000	82,500
Creameries .....	2	5,500	7	4,125	42,900	7	12,175	19	14,030	130,160
Iron Working.....	13	639,700	289	156,310	605,031	19	837,500	365	245,000	1,125,000
Brewing and Bottling .....	4	43,000	20	16,485	91,000	4	285,000	59	53,000	186,000
Cigarmaking.....	1	5,900	5	4,500	10,000	3	12,500	15	11,300	19,000
TOTALS.....	108	\$3,530,020	6521	2,133,634	\$4,517,984	231	\$5,777,996	9243	3,926,330	\$9,987,160

## SUMMARY

	Number of Plants	Capital in Plants	Persons Employed	Annual Payroll	Value of Products
1900.....	108	\$3,530,020	6,521	\$2,133,634	\$4,517,984
1901.....	141	4,604,550	7,955	2,677,938	8,659,747
1902.....	189	4,847,800	8,619	3,221,656	8,160,642
1903.....	231	5,777,996	9,248	3,926,330	9,987,160
Per ct. of increase..	113	63	42	84	120



NOTE.—These tables make no account of the logging industry, of which there are 16 camps, employing about 500 men; nor of the mines, gold and coal, employing about 500 men eight months each year; nor of the tar and turpentine industry, fertilizers manufacturing, cold storage, etc.

NOTE.—The information contained in this booklet was compiled and authorized by the Bellingham Chamber of Commerce. The photos, cover design, printing and binding are examples of Bellingham art and workmanship. Those interested in securing further information concerning Northwest Washington should write to  
**BELLINGHAM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, Bellingham, Wash.**

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